

Mr. Dulles's Cloak and dagger boys

by BERNARD DIX

CI.A., the American intelligence agency headed by Mr. Allen Dulles, brother of the Secretary of State, is not content with helping to overthrow the Guatemalan Government, blowing up "Red" railway lines, and other counter-revolutionary activities (*Tribune*, December 24th).

It has also—so it appears—been snooping around at home in the United States. And its activities are to a large extent beyond the control of Congress.

Section 10 (b) of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 says: "The sums made available to the Agency may be expended without due regard to the provisions of law and the regulations relating to the expenditure of government funds; and for the objects of a confidential, extraordinary, or emergency nature . . ."

A Senator from Colorado said then that this was the most sweeping legislation that the Congress had been asked to pass and he expressed fears of "military Fascism" and the establishment of a "military Gestapo".

Playing with fire

And Senator Langer said that this was the first time in history that the House, or Senate, had been called upon to pass a proposed statute "without having full and detailed information of the provisions of the bill".

The *Washington Post*, in an editorial on January 9, 1953, cited instances of exploits of the C.I.A. "which have been the subject of many whispered complaints".

It alleges that one C.I.A. activity consists of subsidizing a "neo-Nazi organisation" in Germany which had marked leaders of the Social Democratic Party for "liquidation". Examples were also cited of the C.I.A. supporting, according to Vietnamese, Siamese—and Burmese sources, the activities of the Chinese Nationalist forces—operating in Burma.

Certain Americans also seem concerned over its activities within the United States itself. Last March Senator Mansfield quoted the case of two C.I.A. agents who spread false reports that Owen Lattimore was about to flee the country and refused to testify when subpoenaed.

Worried Senators

"Does this incident," Mansfield asked, "mean that the C.I.A. is getting into the internal security field in competition with the F.B.I.? Does it mean that officials of this government agency can defy the courts?" Senator Mansfield warned: "We cannot permit C.I.A. any more than we can permit any government agency, to have free rein to do anything it wants anywhere in the world. If its agents play carelessly with fire, the whole world might get burned . . ."

The estimates of staff controlled by Allen W. Dulles vary widely from 8,000 to 30,000, and estimates of annual expenditure from 500 million to 800 million dollars. The figures are dangerously vague. But there are clearly a lot of men and a lot of money engaged in this nasty business—and it is apparently beyond the control of the elected American representatives.

Senator Mansfield is not the only man to be worried by the cloak-and-dagger crew.